

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 have been rejected as unpatentable over prior art. These have now been canceled and replaced by a single new claim 12.

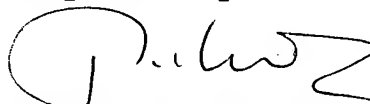
The new claim recites the inventive method as calling for air to be drawn out of slotted air exhaust conduits to ambience which in turn causes ambient air to be drawn into slotted air inductor conduits that are embedded in the bed along with the exhaust conduits. The air stream between the air induction and air exhaust entrain subterranean gases in the bed to remove them.

It is submitted that this method is not disclosed nor made obvious by the prior art. In this regard note that Wallin creates overpressure in his bed which essentially provides a barrier to entry of subterranean gases. Conversely, with the method of claim 12 a suction is applied to the bed which draws ambience air into the bed through slotted air induction conduits that are embedded in the bed along with slotted air exhaustion conduits. These are two very different solutions to one common problem.

Note also that the partial vacuum created by Knierpner is in the subsoil. Relocating it into the bed of Wallin would be self defeating since Wallin deliberately creates overpressure there.

By this Amendment, it is believed that all informalities have now been corrected and the patentability of remaining claim 12 clearly demonstrated. A notice of allowance is accordingly solicited.

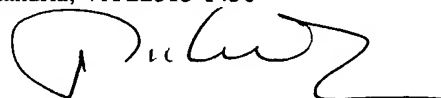
Respectfully submitted,



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On Aug 4, 2003.



STATUS OF CLAIMS

- (1) (Cancelled)
- (2) (Cancelled)
- (3) (Cancelled)
- (4) (Cancelled)
- (5) (Cancelled)
- (6) (Cancelled)
- (7) (Cancelled)
- (8) (Cancelled)
- (9) (Cancelled)
- (10) (Cancelled)
- (11) (Cancelled)

(12) (New) A method of removing subterranean gases from a building site having a plurality of slotted air induction conduits in fluid communication with ambience embedded in an air permeable bed of materials beneath a building and a plurality of slotted air exhaust conduits embedded in the air permeable bed of materials, wherein air is drawn out of the air exhaust conduits exhaust thereby drawing ambient air into the air induction conduits and through the bed of air permeable materials to entrain subterranean gases in the air stream as it passes through the bed.